SURF AND SAND

Objective:

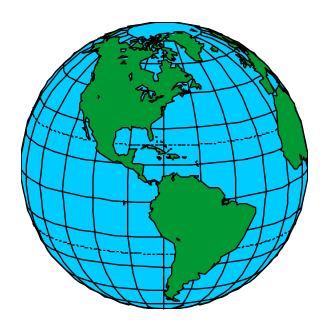
Students will discover the ratio of land to water on the Earth's surface.

Materials:

- Beach ball globe
- Surf n' Sand Toss worksheets (1 per student)

Procedure:

- 1. Tell the class that they will conduct a probability experiment to calculate the ratio of land to water on the Earth's surface. What percent of the Earth do they think is covered by water? By land?
- 2. Have the students toss and catch the globe 50 times. Be sure that the ball is spun as it is tossed. Each time the ball is caught, have the catcher call out the location of their right index finger (land or water). Keep a tally of the results on the board.
- 3. At the end of the first trial, have the students record the results on the attached AIMS worksheet. Complete two more trials.
- 4. The average percentages of land and water for the beach ball experiment should roughly equal the actual percentages of land and water on the Earth. Over 70% of the Earth's surface is covered by water!





If a beach boll globe is tossed and cought, what percent of the time will the catcher's right index finger be an water?

Do three trials in which the globe is tossed and caught 50 times. Keep a tally of the results in the first table and then calculate the percents in the second table.

Tally

Trial	Lond	Water
1		
2		
3		

Percents

Trial	Land/Total	Percent Land	Water/Total	Percent Water
1				
2				
3	-			
	Average		Average	

FINDING YOUR BEARINGS

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